

Home Care Instructions Following Root Canal Treatment

1. Root canal treatment can take 1 or 2 appointments depending on how complex the case may be. It is possible to experience any of the following symptoms after any one of these appointments: sensitivity to hot and/or cold; sensitivity to pressure; possible swelling and discomfort.
2. In some cases, pain medication may be necessary. **Always talk to your dentist first about post-treatment pain management.**
3. If you experience swelling, call our office. It may be necessary to prescribe an antibiotic for you. If you are prescribed antibiotics, then take as directed and complete the regimen as prescribed by the dentist. Stop taking the antibiotic if you develop an allergic reaction (such as itchiness, rash, swelling in the throat).
4. A temporary filling may be used to seal the tooth between appointments.
5. Be gentle on the tooth while eating **until** the final filling and/or crown is placed.
6. During endodontic treatment the nerve, blood and nutrient supply to the tooth is removed. This will cause the tooth to become brittle and prone to fracturing which can result in the need to extract the tooth. In many cases a full coverage crown restoration (crown) may be recommended to prevent this from happening.
7. **Always seek immediate medical attention if you experience severe facial pain, swelling, numbness, or difficulty breathing.**